

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Naoki Mukaida <i>et al.</i>	Examiner:	Rojas, Midys
Application No.:	10/032,949	Group Art Unit:	2185
Filing Date:	December 26, 2001	Office Action Date:	January 17, 2006
Docket No.	10416-18	Confirmation No.	7222
Title:	MEMORY CONTROLLER, FLASH MEMORY SYSTEM HAVING MEMORY CONTROLLER AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING FLASH MEMORY DEVICE		
		Customer No.	30076

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT / REPLY AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION

This amendment is filed in response to the Office action of January 17, 2006, and is timely filed with a 3-month extension of time.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1, 3, 17, 18, and 20 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1, 3, 17, 18, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hiraka (U.S. Patent No. 5,987,573).

Claims 1, 17, and 20 have been amended. No claims have been canceled. No new claims have been added.

Applicants respectfully contend that the differences between the claimed invention and the cited references are such that the claimed invention is patentably distinct over the cited references.